

## PEDAGOGICAL PRINCIPLES

*“ If I had influence with the good fairy who is supposed to preside over the christening of all children, I should ask that her gift to each child in the world be a sense of wonder so indestructible that it would last throughout life, as an unfailing antidote against the boredom and disenchantments of later years, the sterile preoccupation with things that are artificial, the alienation from the sources of our strength.... If a child is to keep alive his inborn sense of wonder without any such gift from the fairies, he needs the companionship of at least one adult who can share it, rediscovering with him the joy, excitement and mystery of the world we live in...”*

Carson, R. (1956). *The Sense of wonder*.  
NY: Harper & Row Publishers.

### Connecting Deeply with Nature: *Environmental Stewardship*

Together, teachers and children nurture their sense of wonder as they explore their relationship with the natural world in which they live with care and compassion.

### The Environment as Co-Teacher

Central to the program is the notion that all living things and systems are in connection and have something to teach us. Spending significant periods of time in the outdoors supports children's growing awareness of their own connections with natural landscapes and phenomenon through emergent, experiential learning and unstructured and spontaneous play.

### Learning Collaboratively As a Part of A Community

Through a growing sense of place and belonging, children will begin to appreciate their connections within their communities that include family, neighbours, friends, and local nearby nature. Children will benefit from the collaborative instruction of a Kindergarten teacher and an early childhood educator alongside other community members at different times.

### Physical and Mental Health

Within a framework of safety, consistent and sustained interaction with the natural environment will facilitate the physical, mental and emotional wellbeing of children.

### Aboriginal Ways of Knowing and Understanding

Woven through our principles will be Aboriginal concepts of: respect for place, process and community; connected ways of knowing; and the particular narratives of our locale.

Visit our blog at <http://naturekindergarten.sd62.bc.ca/>  
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# Nature Kindergarten



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